

The Athens Post.

BY SAM. P. IVINS.

ATHENS, TENNESSEE, FRIDAY, AUGUST 14, 1868.

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TERMS:

THE POST IS PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY.
At Two Dollars a Year, Payable in Advance.
No attention paid to orders for the paper unless accompanied by the Cash.
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Communications, to secure insertion, must be accompanied by the name of the authors.

The Post.

Athens, Friday, August 14, 1868.

The Ayes and Noes.

Our readers will remember the resolution below was published last week as having been adopted by the House of Representatives. We re-print it, with the ayes and noes on the final action:

Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee, That we don't think this the proper time to take into consideration the question of the elective franchise.

Ayes—Agee, Allen, Anderson, Bowles, Brown, BLOOM, Brewer, Chiles, Cagle, Cordell, Dame, Doughty, Dwyer, Dyer, Faulkner, Galbraith, GRIF, FITH, Gilmer, Grayson, Hale, Hodges, Hamilton of Shelby, Hamilton of Lincoln, Marshall and Giles, Hunt, Hacker, Jordan, Lillard, Medlin, Meyers, Myers, Mynatt, Mason, Poston, Puckett, Porter, Prosser, Preston, Pritchard, Ryer, Reed, Singletary, Shepherd, Smith, Sporkman, Stone, Taylor of Carter and Johnson, Taylor of Perry and Decatur, Thornburgh of Jefferson, Thompson, White of Bradley, White of Green, Woodcock, Welsh, and Walker—51.

Noes—Carter, Cason, Hamner, Johnson, Kerchival, McCall, Moore, Robinson, Ryder, Roach, Turner, Williams, Wines, and Speaker Richards—14.

State Fairs.

The Ohio State Fair takes place at Toledo, and continues from the 21st to the 25th of September. The Indiana State Fair, to be held at Indianapolis, begins on Monday, September 28, and lasts through the week. The premium list amounts to \$12,000. Kentucky holds her State Fair at Louisville, from September 15th to the 19th. The Minnesota State Fair occurs this year at Minneapolis. It continues from September 20th to October 2. The Illinois State Fair comes off this year at Quincy, opening September 21 and continuing until the 26th. Upward of \$12,000 are offered in premiums, of which \$9,000 are in money. The New York State Fair is to be held at Rochester, September 29.

The School Fund.

The following paragraph is from the Nashville Press and Times:
The hitch in the educational machine is not removed. Although gigantic efforts are being made by Gen. Eaton, and by the County Superintendents all over the State, still the affairs seem to be a little complicated.

In reply to inquiries made by Gen. Eaton, General Superintendent of Education for the State, the Comptroller of the Treasury, G. W. Blackburn, reports that for the year of 1868 the State is due the school fund, from all sources of State revenue, from taxes collected by tax collectors, and from other sources, up to the 30th September of that year, \$17,078.34; which is to be distributed over a school population of 36,038.

Mississippi.

A Memphis dispatch of the 5th instant says:

A few nights ago, Tom McLain and Dan. Gilbert, two negroes were arrested for the murder of Samuel McSwine near Grenada, some weeks since, were taken from jail, in Coffeyville, Miss., by a large party of masked horsemen, carried a short distance from town and hung. The jailer and sheriff resisted the mob until overpowered. Some of the mob stated that the loyal league would prevent the hanging of McLain and Gilbert, and that they were determined they should suffer death for their deeds.

A Change or Ruin.

What an admonition there is to the laborers, the tax-payers, and even the bondholders of the country, in the remarks of Washburne, of Illinois, while urging Congress not to delay adjourning. He said:

"If I desired an adjournment at the earliest possible moment, for if they went on at the rate they were going, the Government would have neither money nor credit left."

Hanged.

A negro man was found hanging from a tree near Gallatin on the morning of the 31. The Nashville Gazette says: The deceased lived in Gallatin, and had the reputation of being a desperate and dangerous man, having been engaged in various attempts to incite the negroes of that place against the whites.

The General Assembly.

There was a long and animated debate in the House of Representatives on Taylor's resolution giving the franchise propositions the go-by. The debate is reported at length in the Nashville papers, but is too long for our columns. The reader will understand the spirit in which the House treats the subject by the following reference to its action, copied from the Banner:

The House concluded yesterday to run the risk of snubbing Brownlow and gave his message the complete go-by in the passage of Taylor's resolution. Our report of the proceedings, which is full enough to render extended comment unnecessary, distinctly indicates the temper of the majority as regards favorably considering, even in the remote future, any proposition to extend the franchise. But the sense of disfranchisement under which the proscribed masses must labor, in view of the almost utter hopelessness of the situation, should not prevent us from paying the tribute of gratitude due to such men as Cason, Williams, Wines, Cagle and Roach—avowed Republicans as they are—for their noble appeals in our behalf. Amid such associations, and subjected to a party pressure altogether extraordinary in its nature, they exhibited a strength of moral sentiment and too uncommon in these degenerate times.

A colored brother was taken out of the gallery in a fit just as Myatt relieved himself of a superhuman burst of eloquence. Cause and effect.

A Merited Tribute.

The Nashville Gazette pays the following well-merited tribute to Representative Hamilton, of Shelby county. After alluding to the fact that he was a rebel at the commencement of the war, an officer in the Confederate army, who swindled the service out of numerous hogheads of sugar and other commissary stores, and then, with his mouth full of falsehoods and misrepresentations, became a deserter and a wanderer to avoid merited punishment, our Nashville cotemporary continues:

"The latter individual [Hamilton] is at present a member of the Tennessee Legislature, and on Tuesday evening last during one of the most solemn and impressive scenes ever enacted in the Capitol of the State—a people respectfully petitioning for their liberties—disgraced every decent member of the Legislature and every respectable spectator in the Hall of the House, by his coarse and discountenanced manner towards those presenting the petition. He is now excessively loyal, but it would be perfectly safe to bet two to one that he will not remain so any longer than it suits his pecuniary convenience. Genuine 'Tennessee Loyalists' should at least watch if they do not entirely ignore zealous converts to their faith, whose antecedents are so well calculated to excite suspicion against present or future fidelity."

The Fallen Man.

The Lynchburg Republican has the following to say about the recent defeat of ex-Governor Jo. E. Brown, of Georgia:

The withering rebuke and crushing defeat which the ex-Governor has received, are a just reward for his treacherous double-dealing. Mr. Hill may be, as stated by telegraphic dispatches, a supporter of Grant and Colfax, but he is, at any rate, a better man than his opponent. He could not well be much worse. His record has at least the merit of some show of consistency. He was known as a staunch Union man during the whole war, whilst Governor Brown was working earnestly in behalf of the Confederate movement, quite as long as he considered it a safe investment. At the close of hostilities, he became violently radical, the fit, as it seemed him, amounting almost to hydrophobia. Like many other and more noble animals afflicted with the same disease, he has now been slain by the hands of his own friends. May his fate prove a warning to other ambitious members of the scullawag fraternity.

Ku-Klux in Massachusetts.

Boston, August 6.—At Chesterfield, Mass., a man named Hiram Pitsinger, who is said to have kept a woman as a kitchen servant, and between them to have abused his wife so that she was compelled to leave him last month, was visited a night or two since by about thirty men in disguise and some women also, and ordered to surrender. He resisted, and knocked one of his assailants down, but was soon over-powered. Pitsinger and his household were then marched off to the house of his brother, near which the unfortunate pair were stripped of their clothing, tarred and feathered, and rode on a rail half a mile. Pledges were exacted from Pitsinger not to divulge the names of those engaged in the riotous proceedings, to remove his servant from town within forty-eight hours, and to make a confession of his guilt to his wife, and if not done, a worse visitation was threatened to follow.

The Right Spirit.

A note from Frank Blair, received by a member of his family in this city, says:

"Everywhere I find the people in advance of their leaders. Only the politicians are intimidated by radical threats. My business throughout this canvass will be to tell the truth without fear or favor, regardless of consequences to myself or party."

Later dispatches lead to a strong suspicion that the death of Miles O'Reilly from an overdose of chloroform was a case of suicide.

Peace in Giles County.

A very large meeting of the citizens of Giles County was held at the court-house at Pulaski, last Monday, and was organized by calling Colonel James T. Wheeler to the Chair. Colonel J. P. McGuire and Captain Wm. C. Flournoy were appointed Vice Presidents, and Colonel A. H. Abernathy, Secretary.

Generals Brown and Gordon being called upon, gave the result of the interview of the ex-Confederate Generals of Tennessee with the Legislative Military Committee, upon the present state of affairs, and urged upon all good citizens the necessity of living in strict subordination to the laws, and of pursuing such a course as would tend to restore perfect peace and harmony throughout the State.

At the conclusion of General Gordon's speech, the following preamble and resolution was offered by Captain William C. Flournoy, and unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, We have seen the communication addressed to the Legislature of Tennessee by N. B. Forrest, B. F. Cheatham, George W. Gordon, John C. Brown and others of date the 1st Aug. 1868, and fully approving the sentiments which pervade that paper, and being desirous of endorsing the pledge made by the writers of that communication, therefore

Resolved, That we heartily and cordially adopt that communication as an exponent of our sentiments and purposes, and pledge ourselves to a strict observance of the same.

On motion of Colonel Dickson, it was ordered that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the Legislature, addressed to the Military Committee, through the Hon. J. P. Reid, Representative of Giles County, and that copies be furnished the Pulaski Citizen and the Nashville papers for publication.

Our informant says that whereas the excitement had been intense since Brownlow's sanguinary message was promulgated, the utmost quiet now reigns throughout that section of country the people being resolved to stand by the pledges which they last Monday so heartily and emphatically endorsed.

Summing It Up.

The New York Herald, although not by any means a supporter of Seymour and Blair, is not complimentary to the radical revolutionists. Speaking of that faction, it says in a late issue: "On one hand we have the radicals, guilty of every crime that can sustain the history of a party; guilty of the meanest chicanery in calling the National victory theirs and perverting it to their party purposes; guilty of outraging humanity itself in the disorganization of Southern society, and of the most diabolical hypocrisy in pretending that their use of the negro is for the sake of equal rights; guilty of indescribable dishonesty in violating that great pledge of the nation that the war was not waged against the integrity of the States and was only to secure the Union. Such is one faction—a party whose morality, moderation and purpose are fitly typified by such exemplars as Butler, Stevens and Sumner. It would be a stolid, servile and broken down people among whom a party in such hands would not awaken reaction. Reaction, therefore, is earnest, and the people repudiate the pretense of these leaders to settle the future peace of the nation in accordance with the extreme views their diseased intellects take of our position."

"Alarming."

An exchange says:
There is an alarming amount of paper out against the Government, but the most alarming thing about it is, that most of the paper bears a high rate of coin interest. If this interest-bearing paper were exchanged for non-interest bearing, there would be nothing alarming about it.

Alabama.

A dispatch from Montgomery says:
The Senate passed, with one dissenting vote, a bill removing all political disabilities. It provides that all disabilities resting upon a citizen shall be removed upon his filing application with the Probate Judge. No oath is required.

The Funding Bill.

The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun states, as the result of "inquiry in the right direction," that among the reasons which induced the President to withhold his approval of the funding bill, is that the bonds were to be exempt from taxation.

The widow and eldest daughter, the only survivors of John C. Calhoun, are represented as in very straitened circumstances. The library of the statesman was lately sold to satisfy a small debt.

An exact calculator has made an estimate based upon the salaries paid to American ministers, and the number of sermons preached, and arrived at the conclusion that the price paid for a sermon, to take the country through, is only three cents apiece!

Two twin brothers named Northcross, residing near Bastrop, were recently killed in an altercation with the father-in-law of one of them, whose wife had been prevailed upon to accompany the father to Tennessee.

THE NATIONAL TICKET.

Seymour's Letter of Acceptance.

UTICA, Aug. 4, 1868.

Gentlemen: When in the city of New York on the 11th of July, in the presence of a vast multitude, on behalf of the National Democratic Convention, you tendered to me its unanimous nomination as their candidate for the office of President of the United States, I stated that I had "no words adequate to express my gratitude for the good will and kindness which that body had shown to me. Its nomination was unsought and unexpected. It was my ambition to take an active part, from which I am now excluded, in the great struggle going on for the restoration of good government, of peace and prosperity to our country. But I have been caught up by the overwhelming tide which is bearing us on to a great political change, and I find myself unable to resist its pressure."

"You have also given me a copy of the resolutions put forth by the convention, showing its position upon all the great questions which now agitate the country. As the presiding officer of that convention, I am familiar with their scope and import; as one of its members, I am a party to their terms. They are in accord with my views and I stand upon them in the contest upon which we are now entering, and I shall strive to carry them out in future, wherever I may be placed, in political or private life."

I then stated that I would send you these words of acceptance in a letter as is the customary form. I see no reason, upon reflection, to change or qualify the term of my approval of the resolutions of the convention. I have delayed the mere formal act of communicating to you in writing what I thus publicly said for the purpose of seeing what light the action of Congress would throw upon the interests of the country.

RECENT ACTS OF CONGRESS.

Its acts since the adjournment of the Convention, show that it is alarmed lest a change of political power will give to the people what they ought to have, a clear statement of what has been done with the money drawn from them during the past eight years. Thoughtful men feel that there have been wrongs in the financial management which have been kept from the public knowledge.

The Congressional party has not only allied itself with military power, which is to be brought to bear directly upon the electors in many States, but holds itself in perpetual session with the avowed purpose of making such laws as shall be fit in view of the elections which will take place within a few weeks. It did, therefore, not adjourn, but took a recess to meet again if its partisan interests shall demand its reassembling.

MENACING THE PEOPLE.

Never before in the history of our country has Congress thus taken a menacing attitude toward its electors. Under its influence some of the States are depriving the people of the right to vote for Presidential electors, and the first bold steps are taken to destroy the right of suffrage. It is not strange, therefore, that thoughtful men see, in such action, the proof that there are with those who shape the policy of the Republican party motives stronger and deeper than the mere wish to hold political power; that there is a dread of some exposure which drives them on to acts so desperate and so impolitic.

Many of the ablest leaders and journals of the Republican party have openly deplored the violence of Congressional action, and its tendency to keep up discord in our country. The great interests of our Union demand peace, order, and a return to those international pursuits, without which we cannot maintain the faith or honor of our Government. The minds of business men are perplexed by uncertainty. The hours of toil of our laborers are lengthened by the cost of living made exorbitant by the direct and indirect exactions of Government, and our people are harassed by the frequent demands of the tax-gatherer.

PEACE AND CARPET-BAGS.

Without distinction of party there is a strong feeling in favor of that line of action which shall restore order and confidence, and shall lift off the burdens which now hinder and vex the industry of the country. Yet at this moment those in power have thrown into the Senate Chamber and Congressional hall new elements of discord and violence. Men have been admitted as Representatives of some of the Southern States, with the declaration upon their lips that they cannot live in the States they claim to represent without military protection. These men are to make axes for the North as well as the South. These men who a few days since were seeking as supplicants that Congress would give them power within their respective States, are today the controllers of the action of those bodies. Entering them with minds filled with this question, they demand that Congress shall look upon the States from which they come as in the condition of civil war; that the majority of their population embracing their intelligence, shall be treated as public enemies, so that their control may be kept up at the cost of the people of the North, and so that there shall be no peace and order at the South save that which is made by arbitrary power.

Every intelligent man knows that they not only owe their present positions to disorder, but that every motive for perpetuating it springs from the love of power and gain. A desire for vengeance prompts them to keep the South in anarchy. While that exists they are independent of the wills or wishes of their fellow-citizens. While confusion reigns they are dispensers of

the profits and the honors which grow out of a government of mere force.

THE NORTH TO BE CONTROLLED BY THOSE WHO CONTROL THE SOUTH BY FORCE.

These men are now placed in positions where they cannot only urge their views of politics, but where they can enforce them. When Senators shall be admitted in this manner from the remaining Southern States, although they will have in truth no constituents, they will have more power in the Senate than a majority of the people of the Union living in nine of the great States. In vain members of the Republican party protested against the policy that led to this result.

While the chiefs of the late rebellion have submitted to the result of the war, and are now quietly engaged in useful pursuits for the support of themselves and families, and are trying, by the force of their example, to lead back the people of the South to the order and industry not only essential to their well-being, but to the greatness and prosperity of our country, all those that, without ability or influence, have been thrown by the agitations of civil convulsion into positions of honor and of profit, are striving to keep alive the passions to which they owe their elevation, and they clamorously assert that they are the only friends of our Union. Proof of that can only have sure foundation in the fraternal regard and a common desire to promote the peace, the order, and the happiness of all parties of our land.

IMPORTANCE OF A DEMOCRATIC VICTORY.

Events in Congress since the adjournment of the Convention have vastly increased the importance of a political victory by those who are seeking to bring back economy, simplicity and justice in the administration of our national affairs. Many Republicans have heretofore clung to their party who have regretted the extremes of violence to which it has run. They have cherished a faith, that while the action of their political friends have been mistaken their motives have been good.

They must now see that the Republican party is in that condition that it cannot carry out a peaceful policy, whatever its motives may be. It is a misfortune, not only to a country, but to a governing party itself, when its action is unchained by any form of opposition. It has been the misfortune of the Republican party that the events of the past few years have given it so much power that it has been able to shackle the Executive, to trammel the Judiciary and carry out the views of the most unwise and violent of its members. When this state of things exists in any party, it has ever been found that the judgment of its ablest leaders do not control. There is hardly an able man who has helped to build up the Republican organization, and who has within the past three years warned it against its excesses, who has not been born down and forced to give up his convictions of what the interests of the country called for; or, if too patriotic to do this, who has not been driven from its ranks.

If this has been the case heretofore what will be its action with this new infusion, who, without a decent respect for the views of those who had just given them their positions, begin their legislative career with calls for arms, and demands that their States shall be regarded as in a condition of civil war, and a declaration that they are ready and anxious to degrade the President of the United States whenever they can persuade or force Congress to bring forward new articles of impeachment?

A CHANGE NEEDED TO CHECK VIOLENCE OF PARTY ACTION.

The Republican party, as well as we, are interested in putting some check upon this violence. It must be clear to every thinking man that a new disposition of judicial power tends to check the violence of party action, and assures the peace and good order of the country. The election of a Democratic executive and a majority of Democratic members to the House of Representatives would not give to that party organization power to make sudden or violent changes, but would serve to check those extreme measures which have been deplored by the best men of both organizations. The result would most certainly lead to that peaceful restoration of the Union and the re-establishment of fraternal relationship which the country desires. I am sure the best men of the Republican party deplore as deeply as I do, the spirit of violence shown by those recently admitted to seats in Congress from the Southern States. The condition of civil war which they contemplate must be abhorrent to every right thinking man.

THE CARES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PRESIDENCY.

I have no more personal wishes which mislead my judgment in regard to the pending election. No man who has weighed and measured the duties of the office of President of the United States can fail to be impressed with the cares and toils of him who is to meet its demands. It is not merely to float with popular currents without a policy or a purpose. On the contrary, while the Constitution gives just weight to the public will, its distinguishing feature is that it seeks to protect the rights of minorities. Its greatest glory is that it puts restraint upon power. It gives force and form to those maxims and principles of civil liberty for which the martyrs of freedom have struggled through ages. It declares the right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses and papers against unreasonable search and seizure; that Congress shall make no law respecting the establishment of religion or the free exercise thereof, or abridging the freedom of speech or of the press, or the right of the people to petition for redress of grievances. It secures "the right of a speedy and public trial by an impartial jury."

No man can rightfully enter upon the duties of the Presidential office unless he is not only willing to carry out the wishes of the people expressed in a constitutional way, but is also prepared to stand up for the rights of minorities. He must be ready to uphold the free exercise of religion. He must denounce measures which would wrong personal or home rights or the religious conscience of the humblest citizens of the land. He must maintain without distinction of creed or nationality all the privileges of an American citizenship. The experience of every public man who has been faithful to his trust teaches him that no one can fulfill the duties of the office of President unless he is ready not only to undergo the falsehoods and abuse of the bad but to suffer the censure of the good, who are misled by prejudice and misrepresentation.

There are no attractions in such positions which deceive my judgment, when I say that a great change is going on in the public mind. The mass of the Republican party are more thoughtful, temperate and just than they were during the excitement which attended the progress and close of the civil war.

THE DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION.

As the energy of the Democratic party springs from their devotion to their cause and to their candidates, I may with propriety speak of the fact that never in the political history of our country has the action of any like body been hailed with such universal and real enthusiasm as that which has been shown in relation to the position of the National Democratic Convention, and with the creation of which the candidates had nothing to do. Had any others of those named been selected this spirit would have been perhaps more marked. The zeal and energy of the conservative masses sprung from a desire to make a change of policy, and from the thought that they can carry out their purposes.

THE SOLDIERS AND SAILORS.

In this faith they are strengthened by the co-operation of the great body of those who served in the Union army and navy during the war. Having given nearly 16,000 commissions to the officers of that army, I know their views and wishes. They demand the Union for which they fought. The largest meeting of these gallant soldiers ever assembled was held in New York, and endorsed the action of the National Convention in words instinct with meaning. They called on the Government to stop in its policy of hate, discord and disunion, and in terms of fervid eloquence demanded the restoration of the rights of the American people. When there is such accord between those who proved themselves brave and self-sacrificing in war, I cannot doubt we shall gain a political triumph, which will restore our Union, bring back peace to our land, and give us once more the blessing of a wise, economical and honest government.

I am, gentlemen, truly yours, &c.,
HORATIO SEYMOUR.
To Gen. G. W. MORGAN, and others, Committee, &c., &c.

Another Bill—The Militia.

The following was presented in the lower House on the 6th, passed a first reading and referred to the Committee on military affairs:

A bill to be entitled "An act to amend an act passed March 16, 1868, to organize and equip the State Guard, and regulate the Governor's staff."

Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee, That the act passed March 16, 1868, be so amended as to give the Governor full power to increase his clerical force whenever there are State guards in actual service, to such numbers as the absolute necessities of the service may require, to execute all orders and perform such services as the Governor assign them.

Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, That the Governor and Board of Finance of the State shall have control of so much of the finances of the State as may be necessary to meet all the expenses incurred in calling out, organizing, equipping and paying the State Guards, under the act to which this is amendatory.

Sec. 3. Be it further enacted, That the militia or State Guards called out under the provisions of the act to which this is amendatory, when mustered out of the service of the State, shall not be held liable to indictment or presentment or in any suits for damages for any acts done under orders or in line of duty.

Sec. 4. Be it further enacted, That all laws or parts of laws in conflict with the provision of this be, and they are hereby repealed; and that this act shall be in force from and after its passage.

Force of Example.

The New York Herald explains recent doings near Memphis as caused by "force of example."

In Indiana recently "an outraged community" executed by hanging two batches of express robbers, six in all. Now we hear that these examples have been followed in Tennessee in the similar execution of two express robbers.

Fatal Accident.

On Monday, the 3d, several pieces of rocks, the largest of which is estimated will weigh twelve tons, broke loose from the side of Lookout Mountain, near Peep's Springs, Walker county, Ga., and rushing down, struck the dwelling of Mr. George Acrofts, instantly killing Mrs. Acrofts and an infant child. Three other children were also injured, but not fatally.

Texas.

The Houston Telegraph says: "Today there is not as much crime in Texas as among the same amount of population in any part of the North. Men of the North are just as safe in Texas as in one of their own churches at home."